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A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement showing the action taken on Resolution No. 802 carried at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 29th November 1928 separately placed on the table of the House.

(*b*) The progress report for the quarter ending 30th June 1929 is awaited from the Engineer-in-Chief.

Public Service

Powers of Assistant Secretaries in the Secretariat regarding appointment and punishment of subordinates.

* 216 *Q.*—Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answers given to clauses (*b*) and (*c*) of question 322 at the meeting of the Council held on 5th August 1921—

(*a*) why the powers of appointments, promotions and punishments of clerks and Superintendents in the Secretariat have been reserved to the Under Secretaries in all departments except Finance;

(*b*) whether the Government have ever considered the question of divesting the Assistant Secretary in any Secretariat, when recruited from the ranks of clerks or Superintendents, of the powers of appointment and promotion of clerks and Superintendents, if any, such powers are exercised by him with or without authority, express or implied; and

(*c*) whether it is not a fact that as a rule the Assistant Secretaries in the several departments of the Secretariat are recruited by promotion from the grade of Superintendents and whether there was any exception made in the recruitment of Assistant Secretaries in any of the departments from 1921 to 1928, and if so, when, for what reason and in which departments?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The information is being collected.

Settlement

Progress of resurvey and resettlement in South Kanara.

* 217 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. Saldanha: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) to what extent resurvey has been made in the district of South Kanara and to what further extent it is intended to be made in that district;

(*b*) to what extent, with what establishment and at what cost per mensem the resettlement of the district of South Kanara has been in operation;

(*c*) up to what amount on the average Government have decided to increase the land assessment in the same district; and

(*d*) whether Government propose to place before the Council the reports of the settlement operations in that district from time to time?

A.—(*a*) The resurvey of the coast villages of the old Kasaragod taluk (i.e., 97 villages in the present Kasaragod taluk, 25 villages in the present Mangalore taluk and 31 villages in the present Puttur taluk) has been completed. The resurvey of the Kumari villages is now in progress. No resurvey will be made in the rest of the district.

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(b) As regards the work that has so far been done, reference is invited to the answer to question 78. During 1927–28 the average monthly cost of the establishment employed was Rs. 5,048. The Government have no later figures.

(c) No decision has yet been made.

(d) The question of laying the reports of the Settlement Officer on the table of the House will be considered as each occasion arises.

Proceedings of the conference of Revenue Members regarding revenue settlement.

*218 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any reference has been made by the Government of India to the Local Government on the report of the Committee appointed by the Government of Bombay to enquire into the revenue resettlement of the Bardoli taluk;

(b) whether the hon. the then Revenue Member of this Government attended a Conference of Revenue Members of all Provincial Governments at Delhi to discuss the points raised in that report; and

(c) whether the Government of India have communicated to the Local Government the conclusions of the Conference and what action the Government have taken thereon?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Press Communiqué, dated Simla, May 15, which was issued by the Government of India on this subject. The resolution there referred to has not yet been issued so far as this Government are aware.

Staff Selection Board

Selection of candidates by the Staff Selection Board.

*219 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any instructions issued by Government or whether any rules are made for the guidance of the Staff Selection Board in the discharge of their duties and, if so, what they are;

(b) what are the names recommended by the Board in the past one year for the various posts and which of them have been accepted by the Government;

(c) what are the principles which guide Government in rejecting or accepting the recommendations of the Board;

(d) how many sons or near relatives of the Members of the Legislative Council belonging to the Ministerialist Party and others, if any, have been recommended by the Board and which of them Government have accepted;

(e) what are the names of the said Members of Council;

(f) whether it is true that out of four persons selected for Deputy Tahsildar's post by the Board recently, two are sons of Ministerialist Legislative Council Members and who are the said Legislative Council Members; and

(g) whether Government have accepted the said recommendations; and, if so, for what reasons?